

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Indian Health Service Providers
Tribal Health Clinic Providers
Managed Care Plans

Memorandum No.: 05-72 MAA

Issued: July 26, 2005

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration

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Subject: Indian Health Services: Encounter Rate Increase

This memorandum informs Indian Health Service (IHS) and Tribal Health Clinic providers of an increase in the IHS encounter rate **retroactive for claims with dates of service on and after January 1, 2005.**

Rate Increase

Retroactive for claims with dates of service on and after January 1, 2005, the IHS encounter rate was increased from \$216.00 per encounter to \$223.00 per encounter. (A copy of the Federal Register is attached.)

Please use the new IHS encounter rate of \$223.00 when billing for Medicaid-covered services provided on and after January 1, 2005.

Rebilling

Do not rebill claims that have already been paid. By November 1, 2005, MAA will process a one-time mass adjustment to pay providers the difference between the old and the new encounter rate. This adjustment will affect claims for dates of service through August 31, 2005, which were finalized and paid at the old billed rate of \$216.00. After MAA finalizes the mass adjustment, providers must adjust any claims not caught in the adjustment process to receive the higher payment.

MAA's Provider Issuances

To obtain DSHS/HRSA provider numbered memoranda and billing instruction, go to the DSHS/HRSA website at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov> (click ***the Billing Instructions and Numbered Memorandum*** link). These may be downloaded and printed.